



PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No: 15499.398.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nye, et al. )  
Serial No: 10/722,664 ) Art Unit  
Filed: November 25, 2003 ) 3711  
For: BASKETBALL BACKBOARD )  
Confirmation No.: 7674 )  
Examiner: Michael S. Chambers )

## **COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant agrees with the Examiner that the claimed invention is patentable over the cited references, but respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance as set forth in the communication mailed on February 7, 2006. Applicant submits that it is the claim as a whole, rather than any particular limitation, that makes each of the claims in the above-identified application allowable. No single limitation should be construed as the reason for allowance of a claim because it is each of the elements of the claim that makes it allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 29, 2006

By: *Richard C. Gilmore*  
RICHARD C. GILMORE  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 37,335  
**Customer No. 22,913**